Docket No.: E7900.2009/P2009

(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Uwe Schnitzler et al.

Application No.: 10/577,297 Confirmation No.: 5152

Filed: April 27, 2006 Art Unit: 3739

For: APPARATUS FOR COAGULATING TISSUE Examiner: L.C. Dvorak

THIRD PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

MS Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 6 of this paper.